



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALIFORNIA WOMAN INDICTED FOR POSSESSING WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE COCAINE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Carson, Calif., woman was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possessing with intent to distribute cocaine.

Tracee L.B. Sheppard, 23, of Carson, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Today's indictment alleges that **Sheppard** was in possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine on July 29, 2005, in Jackson County, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the indictment is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow